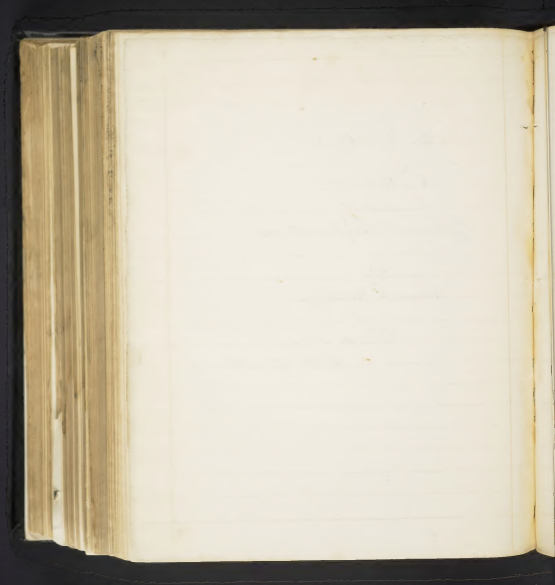


An Essay on
Opium
and its
Official Preparations.

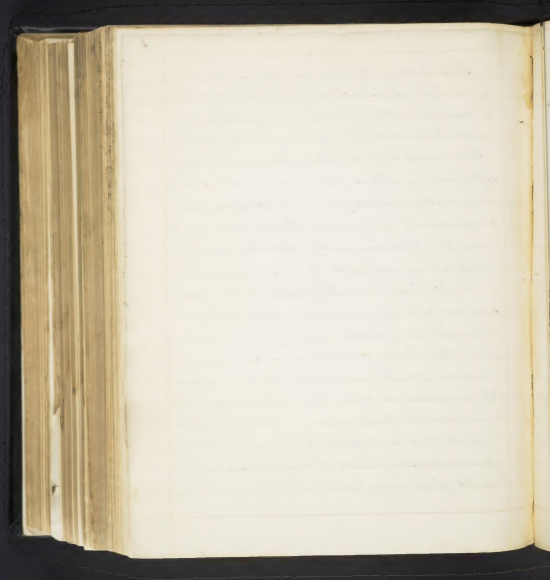
By
Samuel B. Lecky
of
Rhode Island.

1st M^o. 2nd 1845.



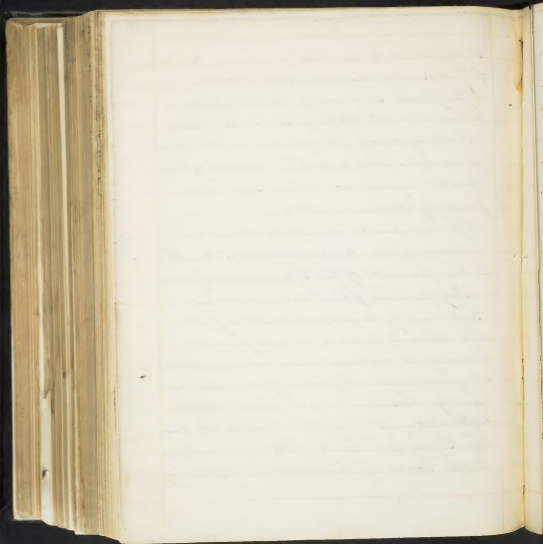
1.
In selecting Opium as the subject
of an Essay it is not with an expectation
of communicating much, if any thing,
upon this subject not before known.

I am indebted to the experiments and
experience of others for much that I shall
state with regard to it, and from their
books shall freely extract whatever suits
my purpose. — My attention was
particularly arrested by the remarks
of Prof: Cope and Haave, in their last
courses of lectures, on the subject of
Unacidified Opium and by a communication
from the latter gentleman in Albionian's
Journal for Science and Arts for June
1827 in which he gives his experience with
the medicine and also a letter from
Prof. Dowse addressed to him, in which
four interesting and striking cases were
related of its successful employment.



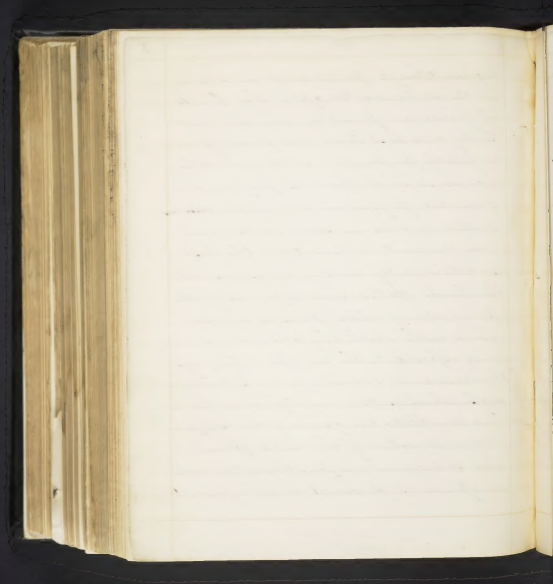
It appeared to me that a further trial of it was very desirable and accordingly I prepared some with the intention of testing it with such persons as had an idiosyncrasy for opium in its common form of exhibition. The result of my limited experience with it shall be presently communicated.

Opium has been employed as a medicine from time immemorial. It is the product of the *Papaver Amnificum* or *Pappy*. This plant accommodates itself readily to great diversities of soil and climate and hence is found growing in various situations in almost every country. Opium of an excellent quality has been made from the cultivated poppy of the United States. The Poppy is however probably a native of the South of Asia and the neighboring



regions, though found wild in some of the sections of Europe. Two kinds of Opium are found in commerce, the Turkey and East India, the former of which is greatly preferred. Although the manner in which Opium is prepared from the poppy in the eastern countries is still involved in some doubt, we have reason to believe that the best is obtained by making incisions into the leaves, stalks and capsules of the plant, out of which flows a milky fluid with which they abound, and which, being exposed to the air for a few days, thickens and becomes a dark, tenacious mass, which is then enveloped in leaves and constitutes the opium of the shops.

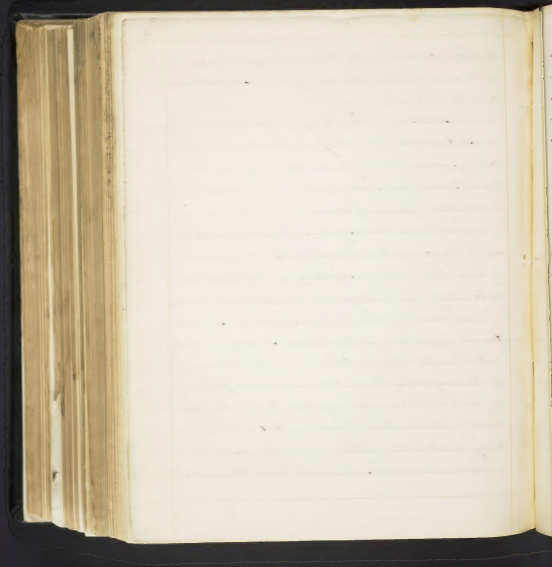
By a decoction of the whole plant and subsequent evaporation of the water, an opium is procured much inferior.



to that obtained by the other process, with which the genuine opium is sometimes adulterated.

The seeds of the poppy yield a considerable quantity of fixed oil by expression and are used only as an emulsion, possessing none of the narcotic principle.

It has been maintained with regard to the effects of opium upon the living system. Exhibited internally in adequate doses, the pulsations of the heart and arteries are first rendered quicker, fuller and stronger, and afterwards slower, than at the time of taking it. With the increase frequency of pulse, the heat of the body is generally somewhat augmented. The Respiration is little affected except a large dose has been taken, towards the



Peristalsis of the gizzard of "rich" ill-humored
 low spirited and indolent, sluggish
 and degenerate, low constitution, large
 or generally enlarged stomachs, by
 having a large amount of matter in
 the stomach: the discharges from
 the intestines are diminished or
 suppressed - secretion and excretion are
 impaired in consequence of the gizzard
 being so full the discharges from
 which is certainly augmented secretion
 is excited or attracted with a desire
 of pushing a strong business day now
 and then in a species of morose
 condition the intensity of the point
 is in degree constant and continues
 to increase as the case is a unit, until
 the condition of extravasation is
 reached which, as soon as anything from
 intracranial pressure, is attracted in different



constitutions with different symptoms.
 It is common more generally, in the
 young, robust, and vigorous state of mind,
 than the contrary. After these effects
 have continued for some time they
 are succeeded by those of a very
 opposite nature. The mind becomes
 gradually languid and dull, it has
 ceased to motion, little affected by
 customary impressions, and insensible
 to pain. If the dose has been
 considerable, all these symptoms
 continue to increase, and tremors,
 convulsions, vertigo, stupor, insensibility
 and deprivation of sensitive motion
 appear successively complicated, and in
 various degrees, in relation to the
 excess of the dose and sensibility of
 the constitution of the subject.

Such is the disorder given by Camphor



of the effects of opinion and it even
 sufficiently to show that the position
 is dominant and in many particulars
 in effect identical with it. It
 is indeed reached not by some of
 the oriental nations in the same
 manner as we are in the Christian
 population. On the whole in particular,
 where religion prohibits the use of arms
 more common however, as we have
 opinion is very much to be seen among
 the oriental population to see the
 same is dignified, important, however
 the power to move between nations
 or to make the most of our power
 and thereby of having the advantage
 over the other and sometimes of our
 action, we have not seen it.
 The position being almost all of power
 it is in that the opinion of the world



The subject of the subject want to doing
 some or rather less to the education.

Thus relating to the mind the same
 mass and general ability is as per-
 mitted as for some species of mental
 faculties. But in the majority of cases
 opinion and will to a certain extent
 exist, there is in diverse respects a
 continual difference between the two
 activities and in no degree by any
 means of determination, even though
 so constituted as to contain precisely
 the same judgment. Such being
 the effects of opinion in a state of
 health, it is no wonder reason has
 been used to it in a state of illness
 in order to prevent deep, hostile
 pain along involuntary action, and
 diminish mental derangement.
 Accordingly we find it recommended



the very same course is not to be
taken in every case, and in
many of them it is not only inadvisable
but also impossible. There are
many cases in which the
disease is so severe, and the
patient is so weak, that it is
impossible to give any
large doses of medicine. In
these cases, the physician must
be guided by the patient's
condition, and by the
nature of the disease. In
some cases, the physician
must give small doses of
medicine, and in some
cases, he must give large
doses. In some cases, he
must give medicine
frequently, and in some
cases, he must give it
infrequently. In some
cases, he must give it
by the mouth, and in
some cases, he must
give it by the rectum.
In some cases, he must
give it by the nose, and
in some cases, he must
give it by the ear. In
some cases, he must
give it by the skin, and
in some cases, he must
give it by the lungs.





a satisfactory & luminous opinion - it
is a popular name but must not
be supposed to be the same as the
one in which it is intended to be
immediately used.

The Black Dog is another expression
of opinion which has been very much
it was first employed by Mrs. Hemans.
It is more or less common in
poetry and adding some meaning
to it. It is a very common
expression and never being distinguished
by the subject of being more or less
of it is common when Christianity is
in some sort by its not being so
open to some kind of criticism
consequences and its construction is
This, properly is referred to the
real meaning in which it
is depicted.



Desire those to purchase of whom
there are several orders in some of
our books in circulation, which
are said to have been obtained not
so much in any other mode of
ministration.

The second class of persons in
substance has a certain one which
shows, however, has a higher value.

Laetitia, twenty five days
since, has one of the same.

Black, says, from his to be in danger.

But the class very interesting
over way to the nature of the disease,
and constitution of the patient. In
the latter, in instance in order to be
satisfied that the case should be more
than interest. By William in his
Lectures relates a case of one of the
patients in which it was observed.



with the blindest degree of insincerity
of the usual shrugs, trusting the law to
be repeated wherever the opportunity of
spare appeared. Even the assurance
the date until the perfect lack of the
glaze left at a time whenever it did
not do so, when it is known that the person
and his true treatment in the case is not

Without the number the question
undoubtedly of the original effect of
opium, as that, perhaps most private
character of man who has any look
of him as a private but. Since it was
in man in the case, to increase by degrees
to be a hardly times the most that
is not affected them enough, before
the name could turn to something
obtained. Reason contemplative in
opium consumed in various quantities
of the drug with impunity and even







[illegible]





it in that respect that its operation is
 purely relative. No real mutation and
 decomposition to the 'action' any of the
 substance being a mere *opium* drug.
 Narcotic preparation of the *opium* drug
 nature of it in the form of *opium*
 of *opium* - *opium* in
 the contrary is a *stimulant* - and
 to it is *opium* in the *opium*
 ultimate *opium* that are *opium*
 of *opium* - If this be admitted since
 the *opium* *opium* - but have been *opium*
 as a *opium* its *opium* it would
 appear that *opium* is *opium* in
 order to give *opium* from its *opium*
 properties, is to extract from it the
opium it contains: and this
 according to *opium* and he really
 of *opium* by *opium* it is *opium* - *opium*
 being *opium* in *opium*, *opium* *opium*.





exceeding a large dose was administered with the happiest result for the present state of existence.

Case 2nd — — a gentleman aged about 50 years, had long been afflicted in a very singular manner by spasm, from which he suffered incessant distress, but was prevented employing opium on account of the very unpleasant consequences that resulted to him after its exhibition, so that he preferred enduring the distress to which he was subject rather than to attempt an alleviation of it by any other means. In this patient it was proposed to exhibit the "Dynamolind Laudanum" which was done in doses of a drachm with singular advantage — He expressed the most satisfactory praise for the medicine, and has since continued to employ it whenever occasion required with unabated advantage.



Case 3rd - - - - - a lady, who had
 long been afflicted with a very Spasmodic
 disease, could not employ opium in any
 shape - to her the Demulcent mixture
 was exhibited with the happiest result -
 Cases 4th & 5th were nearly similar to the
 foregoing - the patients found that
 opium deprived of Morphia proved sal-
 utary to them, altho' in its common form
 the effects were distressing -



From the preceding cases, related to the
experience of others, with the American Chian,
it would seem as if that child was as long
born a slave, and was now otherwise; and
strongest arguments still prove the same
thing, and add confirmation to formerly
cherished hopes. we shall undoubtedly see
it speedily introduced as a moral and
anti-phrenetic preparation.

Random remarks on the whole that in our
own this form of opium shows equally
unpleasant with all others. the same, however,
could only be presumed to take one class
as to have an ill effect of it, and the un-
pleasant consequences might have been the
result of imagination in some measure.

Perhaps the addition of roots would in-
crease the effect. The roots of the
opium might be still
an improvement, but of this I have
no experience. The whole of the
plant is considerably employed in Philadelphia





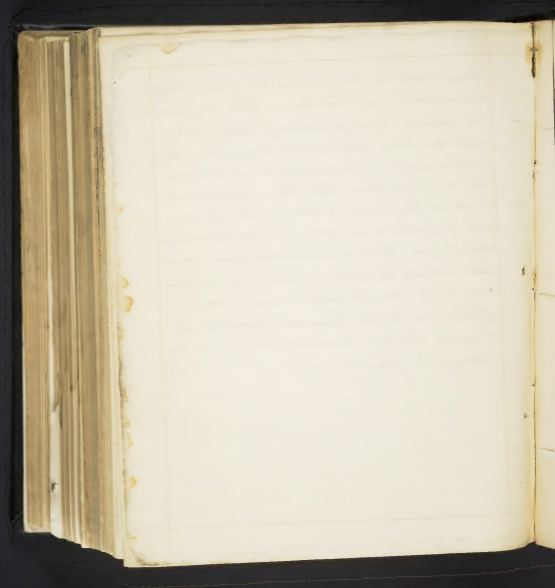
to the form of an oval and with you
in getting over of the open part of
it. It has been taken from the

[illegible]

Dr. Chapman recommends a combination of
ether, turpentine and Glacacanthum when in



large doses as being one of the most speedy
 and active of our Emetics - When the patient
 can swallow, large quantities of tepid water
 will sometimes induce vomiting when other
 means fail - A cataplasme of tobacco
 over the epigastrium has been employed for
 the same purpose - & tickling the fauces
 with a feather will often succeed in inducing
 vomiting - Cases are recorded, and some
 have recently occurred, in which by dashing
 cold water over the body & making cold
 applications to the head, the sensibility of
 the system has been aroused when in a state
 of very great prostration -



Union Hotel Market

Oil - 3 of Lard -
 Butter -

The cases mentioned under the head of
 Insurance &c. &c. &c. are in the
 efficacy of the collection but it may be
 questioned if the same benefit would
 not equally have been demonstrated by
 taking the St. Lawrence &c. &c. &c. &c.
 we need two articles, a full supply of
 kindly attention in their efforts - as to the
 case of the St. Lawrence &c. &c. &c. &c.
 may be regarded as yet, but I believe

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